

NIDIS Working Groups All Chair Meeting

April 26 - 27, 2016

**Embassy Suites - Downtown Lincoln
1040 P Street, Lincoln, Nebraska**

Meeting Goals & Desired Outcomes

- The meeting will focus on re-envisioning and updating the NIDIS Implementation Plan (<https://www.drought.gov/drought/sites/drought.gov.drought/files/media/whatisnidis/Documents/NIDIS-IPFinal-June07.pdf>), to set new objectives and milestones for the NIDIS following its reauthorization by Congress in 2014.
- The meeting will re-examine the foundation on which the working groups coordinate across the NIDIS Regional Drought Early Warning Information Systems (RDEWS), and identify opportunities to strengthen the integration of activities across both sides for mutual benefit.
- The meeting format has been developed with the intent to encourage an interactive, fluid dialogue among participants to ensure a well-crafted set of updates and new milestones for the NIDIS Implementation Plan.
- At the end of the meeting, we hope to have a clearer understanding of the status of NIDIS and proposed activities, and an annotated outline of the NIDIS Implementation Plan update.

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

8:30am – 10:00am *Setting the Stage*

- Attendee introductions
- Review meeting objectives & desired outcomes
- What is the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)
 - 2006 & 2014 Public Laws
 - NIDIS staff resources & introductions; NIDIS critical relationships
- What is an Information System?
- What is a Drought Early Warning System?

10:00am – 10:15am *Break*

10:15am – 11:15am *Continuing to Set the Stage*

- The NIDIS Implementation Plan
- The NIDIS Regional Drought Early Warning Information Systems (RDEWS)
- What are the NIDIS Working Groups? What is their role in NIDIS?
- NIDIS Report to Congress – Highlights

11:15am – 12:00pm *NIDIS Working Groups – Part 1*

Fifteen (15) minute-presentations from Working Group Chairs providing a short review of their past activities relative to the NIDIS Implementation Plan, and insights into future steps and priorities. What does drought early warning and preparedness look like in the context of each Working Group? How does drought early warning get integrated into the Working Groups? What sort of essential collaborations are needed to inform the work of the Working Groups into drought planning, response, and mitigation activities within the Regional Drought Early Warning Systems? (*unable to attend the meeting)

- **Engaging Preparedness Communities Working Group**
 - Deborah Bathke, NDMC, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 - Beth Freeman, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region VII
 - Kirsten Lackstrom, Carolinas Integrated Sciences & Assessments (CISA); University of South Carolina
- **U.S. Drought Portal Working Group – www.drought.gov**
 - Deke Arndt, Chief, Monitoring Branch, National Centers for Environmental Information/NOAA
 - Mike Brewer*, Drought Portal Manager and Chief, Customer Engagement Branch, National Centers for Environmental Information/NOAA
 - Kathy Bogan, NIDIS Communications Specialist
 - Kelly Smith, Communications and Planning Specialist, NDMC

12:00pm – 1:00pm *Working Lunch*

1pm – 3:15pm *U.S. Drought Portal Interactive Exercise*

Experience the newly redesigned and reorganized U.S. Drought Portal. Attendees will provide feedback and input into new site.

3:15pm – 3:30pm *Break*

3:30pm – 5:00pm *NIDIS Working Groups – Part 2*

(*unable to attend the meeting)

- **Observations and Monitoring Working Group**
 - Art Degaetano*, Director, NOAA Northeast Regional Climate Center
 - Dennis Todey, South Dakota State Climatologist
- **Predictions and Forecasting Working Group**
 - Jon Gottschalck, Chief, Operational Prediction Branch, Climate Prediction Center/NOAA
 - Hailan Wang, Senior Research Scientist, Science Systems and Applications, NASA
- **Interdisciplinary Research and Applications Working Group**
 - Matt Rollins*, National Program Lead for Wildland Fire & Fuels R&D, US Forest Service
 - Mark Shafer, Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program; Oklahoma Climatological Survey; University of Oklahoma
- **Education and Public Awareness Working Group**
 - Jim Angel, Illinois State Climatologist
 - Doug Kluck, Central Region Climate Services Director; NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI)

5pm – 5:10pm *End-of-day Wrap-up*

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

8:30am – 8:40am

Outline and Frame the Day's Discussions

8:40am - 9:40am

Panel Discussion with the NIDIS Regional Drought Early Warning Information Systems

Eight five (5) minute-presentations from partners in the NIDIS DEWS regions providing a synopsis of regional priorities and early warning activities. Presentations will be followed by an interactive panel discussion, with the audience, focused on how the work of the Working Groups can be integrated into the RDEWS ,and strengthened coordination between the two groups could improve data and resource inputs into the regions to benefit decision makers.

- **Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint ACF DEWS:** Puneet Srivastava, Director, Water Resources Center, Auburn University
- **California/Nevada DEWS:** Julie Kalansky, California-Nevada Applications Program (CNAP); Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E); Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD
- **Coastal Carolinas DEWS:** Kirsten Lackstrom, Research Associate, Carolinas Integrated Sciences & Assessments (CISA); University of South Carolina
- **Midwest DEWS:** Stu Foster, State Climatologist for Kentucky; Kentucky Climate Center; Western Kentucky University
- **Missouri River Basin DEWS:** Chad McNutt, NIDIS Regional Drought Information Coordinator; NOAA/NIDIS/UCAR; and Doug Kluck, Central Region Climate Services Director; NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI)
- **Pacific Northwest DEWS:** Kathie Dello, Associate Director, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute; Deputy Director, Oregon Climate Service; Oregon State University
- **Southern Plains DEWS:** Mark Shafer, Southern Climate Impacts Planning Program; Oklahoma Climatological Survey; University of Oklahoma
- **Upper Colorado River Basin DEWS:** Taryn Finnessey, Climate Change Risk Management Specialist, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Colorado Department of Natural Resources

9:40-10:05am

National Coordinated Soil Moisture Monitoring Network update and plans moving forward

10:05am – 10:30am

NIDIS Tribal Engagement Strategy – A Distinct DEWS Focus?

10:30am – 10:45am Break

For the rest of the meeting, participants will engage in a facilitated dialogue to outline NIDIS Working Group priorities and next steps, identifying potential updates to the NIDIS Implementation Plan, setting new milestones, and developing next steps needed to revise the Implementation Plan.

10:45am – 12:00pm *Deliberative Dialogue*

- **Key issue:** NIDIS governance structure and role of Working Groups within the governance
- **Key Issue:** Responsibilities of each Working Group and how they function
- **Key issue:** How Working Groups coordinate with DEWS
- **Key Issue:** How to implement the Public Law and develop a national Early Warning System
 - What are the Working Group goals, priorities and scope? (perspective from Chairs, others) *Working toward consensus; develop an agreed-upon plan of action for revision to the Implementation Plan sections.*
 - How do those priorities and goals fit in with the regional DEWS? (perspective from all) *Working toward consensus; develop an agreed-upon plan of action.*
 - How do/should/might NIDIS Working Groups and NIDIS RDEWS interact and communicate? How does this fit into the Implementation Plan? *Working toward consensus; develop an agreed-upon plan of action.*
 - How do/should/might Working Groups interact with each other? *Working toward consensus; develop an agreed-upon plan of action.*
 - What do Working Groups need for success? How can NIDIS support WG activities? *Working toward consensus; develop an agreed-upon plan of action.*

12:00pm – 12:45pm *Working Lunch*

12:45pm – 2:00pm *Continue Deliberative Dialogue*

- Continue morning discussion, resolving/answering questions.
- Now what? The pathway to updating/revising NIDIS Implementation Plan and Milestones.

2:00-3:00pm *Moving Forward - Next Steps, Roadmap and Timelines*

Supporting Documents for NIDIS Working Group All Chair Meeting:

- 2007 NIDIS Implementation Plan
<https://www.drought.gov/drought/sites/drought.gov.drought/files/media/whatisnidis/Documents/NIDIS-IPFinal-June07.pdf>
- 2006 NIDIS Public Law 109-430 <https://www.congress.gov/109/plaws/publ430/PLAW-109publ430.pdf>
- 2014 NIDIS Public Law 113-86 <https://www.congress.gov/113/plaws/publ86/PLAW-113publ86.pdf>
- 2016 NIDIS Report to Congress
https://www.drought.gov/drought/sites/drought.gov.drought/files/media/whatisnidis/Documents/rpt_FINAL_NIDIS%20CongReport_Jan2016.pdf